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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 041465-5113

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Takao SAWABE et al.)
Application No.: 09/900,152) Group Art Unit: 1772
Filed: July 9, 2001) Examiner: To Be Assigned
For: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM,)
INFORMATION RECORDING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD,)
INFORMATION REPRODUCING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD,)
COMPUTER DATA SIGNAL EMBODIED)
IN A CARRIER WAVE)

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Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was cited in an European Search Report issued by the European Patent Office on May 22, 2003 in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's consideration.

To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application, and no fees are believed to be necessary.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitutes "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: June 23, 2003

By:


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Attorney Docket No.
041465-5113Application No.:
09/900,152

Applicant(s): Takao SAWABE et al.

PAGE 1 of 1

PTO Form 1449

Filing Date: July 9, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1772

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
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	5,986,979	Nov. 16, 1999	Bickford et al.	369	32	October 16, 1997
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES NO
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	EP 0 689 206 A1	Dec. 27, 1995	Europe			
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	WO 97/05616	Feb. 13, 1997	PCT			
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner:	Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
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